



## *Notice of Public Meeting*

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**Committee:** Buffalo County Recycling Committee  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor County Board Room, Buffalo County Courthouse  
**Remote Access:** Microsoft Teams [Click here to join the meeting](#)

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The meeting is open to the public, but portions of the meeting may be closed if this notice indicates that the committee may convene in closed session. All electronic devices must be muted during the meeting. The following matters may be considered and acted upon at the meeting, but deviation from the order shown may occur:

01. Call to Order
02. Roll Call of Members
03. Public Comment Regarding Posted Agenda Items
04. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting
05. Review/Discussion ~ BBC&M Updates
06. Review/Discussion ~ Annual Recycling Report
07. Review/Discussion ~ Clean Sweep Updates
08. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Other Reports
09. Public Comment Unrelated to Agenda Items
10. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Next Meeting Date and Time
11. Adjournment.

Date: February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

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By: Tony Pfaff, Recycling Facility Supervisor

**Board Members:** If unable to attend, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 608-685-6209.

**Persons with Disabilities:** If you require special accommodations in order to attend this meeting, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 608-685-6209.

**Public Access to the Courthouse:** The South Entrance will be the only access to the building after 4:30 p.m.

## **Buffalo County Minutes**

**Committee/Board:** Recycling Committee

**Date of Meeting:** November 17th, 2022

**Date of Filing:** November 21st, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Max Weiss at 6:00 p.m.

Max Weiss opened the meeting for the Recycling Committee and Tony Pfaff took roll

**Roll Call of Members:** Max Weiss, Jeannie Czaplewski, Dwight Ruff, Bob Traun, Tony Pfaff, Lee Engfer, Perry Pronschinske, Brian Michaels, Claire Waters, Calvin Loewenhagen, Bruce Kees

**Public Present:** Jared Cyrus, Cale Severson

**Public Comment Regarding Posted Agenda Items:** None

**Review/Discussion/Action – Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Claire Waters made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Dwight Ruff second the motion. Motion carries

**Review/Discussion/Action – BBC&M Updates:** Jeannie Czaplewski said the proposed contract was approved by all four communities of BBC&M. Jared Cyrus stated that his lawyers were in the process of finalizing the last few items for the contracts on his end of things. Jared and Jeannie still believe the tentative transition date of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 is a realistic goal. The Village of Cochrane has a meeting at the end of November, more information on contracts and transition dates will be available after that meeting.

**Review/Discussion/Action – Mondovi Site Updates:** Tony Pfaff started the conversation and gave a proposal to the committee for the City of Mondovi Recycling Center effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2023. There were four items that needed to be changed in the 2023 recycling contract before the City of Mondovi would sign it. First, the annual payment from Buffalo County to the City of Mondovi would go from \$5100 to \$6000. Second, the site would have a permanent schedule of every other Saturday from 8-1:30pm instead of every Saturday like it has been in years past. Third, the site would be open every other Thursday from 3-6pm instead of every Thursday like it has been in the past. The last item is the City of Mondovi will set its own fee schedule for demolition and construction materials, not Buffalo County. A lengthy conversation followed. Dwight Ruff made a motion to accept the proposal. Jeannie Czaplewski second the motion. Motion carries

**Review/Discussion/Action – Green Earth Recycling Complaint:** A resident of Buffalo County had filed a complaint against Green Earth Recycling. The complaint states violations of HHS, Solid Waste and Zoning ordinances. The information and pictures were presented to the committee. After discussion, it was determined that this is a Zoning issue. All three of the departments listed above have knowledge of the complaint and situation.

**Review/Discussion/Action – Other Reports:** None

**Public Comment Unrelated to Agenda Items:** None

**Review/Discussion/Action - Next Meeting Date and Time:** The next Recycling meeting was set for Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Claire Waters. Bruce Kees second the motion. Meeting adjourned @ 6:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tony Pfaff  
Buffalo County Recycling Manager

**Buffalo County Recycling**



**Tony Pfaff**  
**Recycling Facility Supervisor**  
**Anthony.pfaff@co.buffalo.wi.us**  
**Phone (715) 926-5890**

**County Courthouse**  
**407 South Second Street**  
**PO Box 494**  
**Alma, WI 54610-0494**

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**Buffalo County Recycling Program**

**2022 Annual Report to the Recycling Committee and County Board**

To the County Board:

2022 was another year of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the highest inflation rates in 40 years. The pandemic impacts all aspects of County operations, including the County Recycling Program. The pandemic still causes many issues such as the constant struggle of families, friends and coworkers to stay healthy and safe. Households and businesses were hit hard with inflation and the rising costs of many essential goods were at an all time high. Despite the pandemic and inflation, 2022 was a positive year for the recycling program.

This annual report is divided up into sections to address the financial report, hauling statistics, personnel, operations and future planning for the recycling program.

I welcome your comments and recommendations as we continue to deal with the pandemic and inflation into 2023 and strive to continue making improvements within the program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tony Pfaff  
Recycling Facility Supervisor

## **Section I: 2022 Fiscal Report\***

### *Revenues and Fund Balance Requirements*

Based on the 2022 Revenue Guideline adopted by the County Board, revenues were projected to be \$152,091, including a \$98,925 DNR Recycling Grant. With annual budgeted expenses projected to be \$184,903, the need for a transfer from the fund balance in the amount of \$32,812 was anticipated in order to balance the 2022 budget. Preliminary numbers indicate that revenues were approximately \$153,388 or 1% higher than expected, reducing the fund balance amount required to balance the projected expense budget.

### *Expenses*

Based on the adopted Recycling budget for 2022, expenses were projected to be \$184,903. The preliminary 2022 expenditure figures suggest that expenses may be approximately \$155,636 or 15.8% under budget. Should this figure stand, the required fund balance monies to balance the 2022 budget would be reduced from the initially budgeted \$32,812 down to \$2,248 out of the fund balance.

### *Per Capita*

After increasing the Per Capita by one dollar in 2020 and 2021, the Recycling Committee recommended no Per Capita increase in 2022. The Recycling budget for 2023 does not have an increase in the Per Capita. The current Per Capita fee is three dollars. Due to the costs associated with operating a single stream program, additional increases in Per Capita will need to be analyzed over the next several years.

\* 2022 revenues and expenditures have not been finalized to date.

## **Section II: Loads, Tonnage, Appliance Data and Electronic Data**

The County's recycling program has continued to evolve since its inception in the early 1990's. For over a decade, materials were separated into multiple streams, such as glass, plastic, cardboard, newspaper and magazines and tin, and marketed them to vendors directly. In 2014 the County switched to a dual-stream program, where the sorting requirements were reduced to only two categories – containers (glass, plastic, aluminum, and tin) and fibers (newspaper and cardboard). Then in 2020 the program evolved into a single-stream system, where all recyclables can be co-mingled. The changes in system have impacted the labor side of the County's recycling efforts as well as simplified recycling for the public by not having to sort recyclables. The same recyclables continue to be hauled but can now be hauled together in the same roll-off containers, rather than have dedicated roll-offs for each stream category. The conversion to single stream has improved efficiencies by reducing the hauling of less-than-full roll-off containers due to previous sorting requirements. The tables below represent various categories of information that provide an overview of recycling program outcomes:

**Table 1.0 Loads from Municipal Sites**

Site	2021	2022	2021 Tons	2022 Tons
BBC&M	205	218	94.3	96.57
Town of Buffalo	70	82	32.2	36.32
Gilmanton	52	52	23.92	23.03
Maxville	14	13	6.44	5.76
Modena	32	24	14.72	10.63
Town of Nelson	84	97	38.64	42.97
Town of Alma	28	35	12.88	15.5
City of Alma	100	100	46.00	44.3
City of Mondovi (site)	140	100	64.4	44.3
City of Mondovi (Curbside Durand Sanitation)			160.92	162.63
LaCrosse Milling	18	30	8.28	13.29
<b>Totals</b>	<b>743*</b>	<b>751*</b>	<b>502.99</b>	<b>495.29</b>

\*2022 - 751 loads @ 886 pounds per load average = 332.66 tons + 162.63 tons (curbside) = 495.29

\*2021 - 743 loads @ 920 pounds per load average = 342.07 tons + 160.92 tons (curbside) = 502.99

**Table 2.0: COMPACTED LOADS TO PROCESSOR**

Green Circle Recycling, Pierce County, Durand Sanitation (2020)	52 Loads
Green Circle Recycling (2021)	51 Loads
Green Circle Recycling (2022)	52 loads

**Table 3.0: ANNUAL TONNAGE PROCESSED**

	Loads	Ave/Load	Total tons of single stream shipped
2020	52	6.78 Ton	352.87
2021	51	6.71 Ton	342.07
2022	52	6.40 Ton	332.66

**Analysis:** Over the past few years, loads hauled have stayed steady while tonnage has decreased. This may be attributed to fewer heavy recyclables, such as glass, and greater use of lighter materials such as plastic and aluminum containers. Therefore, volume is increasing while tonnage is decreasing.

**Table 4.0: FEE PER TRIP HAULING**

	2019	2020	2021	2022
La Crosse Milling	12	12	18	30

The sole business that pays the County to haul their recyclable fibers away is La Crosse Milling located in Cochrane. The County bills La Crosse Milling \$175 (went from \$100 to \$175 on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022) per load transported to the recycling center in Mondovi.

**Table 5.0: REFRIGERANT APPLIANCES**

Site	2021	2022
BBC & M	75	44
Town of Nelson	19	17
City of Mondovi	111	95
<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>156</b>

**Table 6.0: ELECTRONICS**

Site	2021	2022
BBC & M	217	169
City of Mondovi	326	167
<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>336</b>

### **Section III: PERSONNEL**

In 2022, the County recycling program was operated by a staff of two employees. One position is a full-time Recycling Facility Supervisor (40 hours/week), and one position is split (20 hours/week) with the Highway Dept.

There were many changes to personnel at the end of 2021 going into 2022. After 31 years with Buffalo County, Randy Johnson retired with his last day being January 3rd, 2022. Randy was the Recycling Manager. Bruce Fuerbringer was the Director of Recycling/Director of Solid Waste and retired in September 2021. The Recycling Manager and the Director of Recycling/Director of Solid Waste positions were merged into one position when Tony Pfaff took over Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Tony had been in the split position for 2 years prior. As he transitioned, that left the split position open. Rafael Dedios Sanchez was hired for the split position and his first day was March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The servicing of the BBC&M site went from Buffalo County Recycling to WRT on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. This will affect the split position moving forward. It was agreed that the split position will work for the Recycling Dept 1 day per week (10 hours) and for the Hwy Dept 3 days per week (30 hours). The Recycling Dept can utilize that position more if needed during holiday weeks or to cover PTO days.

### **Section IV: OPERATIONS AND FUTURE PLANNING**

2022 was an efficient year for Buffalo County Recycling as no big purchases were required. The Covid 19 pandemic had implications on the recycling program, much like it did in all aspects of business. Inflation and the price of fuel had a substantial impact on the Recycling Program. The rising costs for recycling and disposal are being felt at all levels.

During 2021 and 2022, discussions and special meetings were held to address BBC&M wanting to go private sector and away from being serviced by the Buffalo County Recycling program. The official transition date for BBC&M to start being serviced by WRT was January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2023. Although this move benefits BBC&M and Buffalo County Recycling financially, it will have an impact on Buffalo County Recycling operations in the future. Any number of considerations, such as program growth and associated costs, the fiscal impact of a disappearing fund balance, the potential for greater cooperation with the Highway Department and the potential for other municipalities to join or leave the program would all create situations that could stimulate potential changes in the program.



# 2022

We shipped 332.66 tons of single stream recyclables

Durand Sanitation collected 162.63 tons (Curbside) City of Mondovi

Total 495.29 Tons

BBC&M	218 loads totaling 96.57 tons (19.5%)
Town of Buffalo	82 loads totaling 36.32 tons (7.3%)
Gilmanton	52 loads totaling 23.03 tons (4.6%)
Maxville	13 loads totaling 5.76 tons (1.2%)
Modena	24 loads totaling 10.63 tons (2.1%)
Town of Nelson	97 loads totaling 42.97 tons (8.7%)
Town of Alma	35 loads totaling 15.5 tons (3.1%)
City of Alma	100 loads totaling 44.3 tons (8.9%)
City of Mondovi	100 loads totaling 44.3 tons (site tonnage)
City of Mondovi	Curbside (Durand Sanitation) 162.63 tons
City of Mondovi	Combined Total of 206.93 tons (41.8%)
LaCrosse Milling	30 loads totaling 13.29 tons (2.7%)

751 loads (651 hauled, 100 Mondovi residents brought to site)

@ 886 pounds per load average = 332.66 tons



**BUFFALO COUNTY**

## CLEAN SWEEP

### AG & HOUSEHOLD WASTE



**May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**8am – Noon**

**Buffalo County Highway Shop**

360 S Eau Claire St, Mondovi, WI

Buffalo County is again offering an Ag & Household Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep collection program to residents, businesses and farms. Funds for collecting hazardous waste are provided by Buffalo County and grants from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection. Residents and farmers may bring their materials to the Clean Sweep collection site at no cost. **Proof of Buffalo County residency will be required.**

For more information please contact:

Buffalo County Recycling

[anthony.pfaff@buffalocountywi.gov](mailto:anthony.pfaff@buffalocountywi.gov)

715.926.5890

Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the Clean Sweep. Please do so as early as possible so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.